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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/508,754	03/16/00	REICHLE	H 32066-152531

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EXAMINER

NASRI, J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2839

DATE MAILED: 10/04/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/508,754

Applicant(s)
Reichle

Examiner
Javaid Nasri

Group Art Unit
2839



☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☒ The drawing(s) filed on Mar 16, 2000 is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☒ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been
☒ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 5

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. Applicant is requested to provide all the documents listed on the international search report.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

- A) Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 250 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 250 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

The language should be clear and concise and should not repeat information given in the title. It should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "The disclosure concerns," "The disclosure defined by this invention," "The disclosure describes," etc.

In this case:

- 1) change the heading from "Summary" to --Abstract--.
- 2) contains more than 250 words.

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3) contains more than one paragraph.

B). The following headings are missing from the specification:

- a) Field of the invention
- b) Background of the invention
- c) Summary of the invention
- d) Brief description of the drawings
- e) Detail description of the invention

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 7, line 3 "hole" must be given a numeral in a figure and referred to in the spec by such numeral. Claim 9, "isolating and separating piece" and "via molding" features must be depicted and discussed in detail. Drawings

3. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the

A) the contacts point laterally inclined

must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered.

Claim Objections

4. Claims 1-9 are objected to because of the following informalities:

A) In claims 1, line 1, change "Contact assembly" to --A contact assembly--.

B) In claims 2-4, line 1, change "Contact assembly" to --The contact assembly--.

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- C) In claims 5, line 1, change "Multiple-connection strap" to --A multiple-connection strap--.
- D) In claims 6-9, line 1, change "Multiple-connection strap" to --The multiple-connection strap--.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

- A) The claims are generally narrative and indefinite, failing to conform with current U.S. practice. They appear to be a literal translation into English from a foreign document and are replete with grammatical and idiomatic errors.
- B) Claim 1 recites the limitation "the longitudinal edge" in line 8. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
- C) In claim 1, line 10, it is not clear what is meant by "positive meshing".
- D) Claim 1 recites the limitation "the free end" in line 13. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

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- E) Regarding claim 1, the phrase "preferably" in line 13 renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear whether the limitation(s) following the phrase are part of the claimed invention.
- F) Claim 1 recites the limitation "the inner end" in line 15. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
- G) Claim 1 recites the limitation "the assembly" in line 18. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
- H) In claim 1, line 18, it is not clear what is meant by "in the assembly direction".
- I) In claim 1, line 19, it is not clear what is meant by "in at least an approximately flush manner".
- J) In claim 2, line 3, it is not clear the web is separable from what?
- K) Claim 3 is confusing.
- L) Claim 4 recites the limitation "the contact points" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
- M) In claim 4, line 3, it is not clear the contact points are inclined with respect to what?
- N) Claim 4 recites the limitation "the edges" in line 3. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.
- O) In claim 4, line 4, it is not clear the contact points are touched by what?

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P) Claim 5 recites the limitation "the casing" in line 5. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Q) Claims 7, 8, 9 features lack clear basis in spec. and drawings. It should be understood that these are few examples only. Applicant is requested to check all the claims and correct them appropriately.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by EP 0 765 011.

EP 0 765 011 discloses contact assembly (1), tongues (3), contact springs (6), guide grooves (see figure 3), IDS (4, 5), web (not numbered), switching contact (7), contact points inclined.

9. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by PCT WO 92/08255.

PCT WO 92/08255 discloses contact assembly (18), tongues (112, 114, 125, 123), contact springs (126, 128), guide grooves (see figure 6), IDS (page 8, line 23), web (120), switching contact (130, 132), contact points inclined.


10. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Smith et al.

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Smith et al. discloses contact assembly (50), tongues (56, 57), contact springs (62), guide grooves, IDS (60), web (58), switching contact (62), contact points inclined.

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Javaid Nasri at telephone number (703) 308 5876. For any inquiry of general nature related to the status of this application should be directed to Group receptionist at (703) 308-0956. The group fax number is (703) 308 7722 or (703) 308 7724.

JN


NEIL ABRAMS
EXAMINER
ART UNIT 322